

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious a method for generating an aerosol comprising the steps of: heating a coating comprising a physiologically active compound, deposited onto a metal screen, by passing a current across the metal screen to vaporize at least a portion of the compound; and (b) simultaneously passing a gas through the metal screen thereby mixing the resulting vapor with the gas in a predetermined ratio, selected to form an aerosol comprised of particles within a desired size range when a stable concentration of particles in the gas is reached.

The prior art of record also fails to teach or render obvious a method for generating an aerosol comprising the steps of: depositing a coating comprising the physiologically active compound onto a substrate, wherein the depositing a coating comprises dissolving the compound in an organic solvent, applying the solution to all or a portion of the substrate and allowing the solvent to evaporate; heating the physiologically active compound to vaporize at least a portion of the compound; (c) cooling the resulting vapor by mixing the vapor with a gas in a predetermined ratio.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Darwin P. Erezó whose telephone number is (571)272-4695. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jackie Ho can be reached on (571) 272-4696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Darwin P. Erezó/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3773